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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                               |   |                     |
|-------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| In re Application of:         | ) | PATENT              |
|                               | ) |                     |
| Massimo FREGONESE et al.      | ) | GROUP:              |
|                               | ) |                     |
| Serial No.: (PCT/IB03/004334) | ) | EXAMINER:           |
|                               | ) |                     |
| Filed: (1 October 2003)       | ) | CUSTOMER NO.: 25269 |
|                               | ) |                     |
| SADDLE SUPPORT STRUCTURE      | ) | CONFIRMATION NO.:   |

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 24, 2005

Sir:

Concurrently with the U.S. national filing of this application, please  
amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.